

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Hylidae, *Itapotihyla langsdorffii*: distribution extension

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In Brazil, the geographic range of *Itapotihyla langsdorffii* (Duméril and Bibron, 1841) is wide and continuous through the Atlantic Rain Forest (Frost 2004), extending from central Bahia state (municipality of Mata de São João) (Freitas and Silvia 2005) to northern Rio Grande do Sul state (municipality of Itati) (Lingnau et al. 2006). Also, there is an isolated population inhabiting the Atlantic Semi-deciduous Forest at the western zone in the states of Paraná and Santa Catarina, between Paraguay and Argentina border (Lutz 1973). We present here a new record for this species that enlarges its distribution to Sergipe state.

During a field expedition carried out in the Crasto Forest (11°20'S; 37°25'W, 45 m above sea level) in September 1994, one of the authors collected a juvenile specimen of *I. langsdorffii* (Figure 1; Museu Nacional – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, MNRJ 17922). This area represents a large and contiguous remnant of Atlantic Rain Forest in the municipality of Santa Luzia do Itanhy, state of Sergipe, in northeastern Brazil. The individual was collected in a temporary pond (30 m maximum length and 0.8 m maximum depth) located at the edge of the forest. About half of the pond's margins was surrounded by medium to large shrubs and trees (especially Leguminosae, Malpighiaceae, Myrtaceae, and Verbenaceae), whereas the other half was surrounded by low vegetation (Cyperaceae, Gramineae, and Verbenaceae), or was free of plant cover. Other 11 species of anurans were also registered in the same pond: *Dendropsophus minutus*,

Dendropsophus branneri, *Scinax* sp. (gr. *rubra*), *Scinax eurydice*, *Scinax x-signatus*, *Physalaemus kroyeri*, *Physalaemus cuvieri*, *Leptodactylus vastus*, *Pseudopaludicola* gr. *falcipes*, *Leptodactylus troglodytes*, *Leptodactylus mystaceus* (previously cited as *Leptodactylus spixii*) (see Arzabe et al. 1998).



Figure 1. Juvenile of *Itapotihyla langsdorffii* at municipality of Santa Luzia do Itanhy, state of Sergipe, Brazil. Photo by C. Arzabe.

When compared to previous reports (Freitas and Silvia 2005), our record of *I. langsdorffii* in the state of Sergipe extends its distribution in at least 170 km northwards, which should be considered now the northernmost limit of its distribution range.

Although there are few surveys in northeastern Atlantic Forest remnants, apparently this species does not inhabit any natural area in the states of Alagoas (G. O. S. Skuk, pers. comm.) and Paraíba (C. Arzabe, pers. obs.). Thus, we suggest that the São Francisco River, which divides Sergipe and Alagoas states, may be the northern limit of its distribution. The states located above the São Francisco River (Alagoas, Pernambuco, Paraíba, Rio Grande do Norte, and Ceará) form the region known as Septentrional Northeast, where the semi-arid climate is more pronounced (Nimer 1989). We suggest that this climatic aspect may influence the faunal composition of the Atlantic forest fragments above the São Francisco River, explaining the absence of this species in this region.

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